

## Texas State Meeting — Worship Report

“Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD! — Psalmist (Psalm 150:6)

Worship, as we see it in the church context, is a topic that brings anticipation and anxiousness. It can result in peace or problems. It has a way to pave the way towards harmony but also disturbance.

We know worship is essential, but we struggle going about it. Scripture makes it abundantly clear that worship should be a part of our lives, but how do we flesh it out?

The foundation of any worship is the object worshipped. When Scripture leans into this conversation, the subject is always one — God. The Psalmist is one example of many, where the command to praise and worship is there, but who is the subject? The Lord.

Part of our fallen nature is to turn inwardly and egocentric. We make it about us, what we want, and how it is supposed to make us feel. This improper worship isn't a generational indictment. It is a human nature indictment that people of all ages fall into the snare.

Looking closely at the fall in Genesis 3, we see that the rebellion began when man wanted to replace God. The object of worship failed to be communion with God and turned into being next to God. From the expulsion of the garden, man has wrestled on how to keep God as the central focus of worship.

When our congregations worship the way God intends, the subject is Him. When worship is not how God intends, the subject shifts from God to man. At this point, one must answer whether man has the ability to provide what is needed to survive.

Does man have the ability to give an unexplainable peace?  
An inexpressible joy?  
Anything that even closely resembles the Fruit of the Spirit?

Of course not. All man brings to the table is more foolishness and folly.

If God is the only One capable of providing the means to live a righteous and holy life, He should be the central focus of worship. This truth allows different styles, methods, and preferences to blossom. As long as the focus is on our King, worship is good.

Let's echo the words of the Psalmist in our hearts, homes, and congregations. If we are breathing, let's praise the Lord!

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